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COLLECTS IN VERSE.

COLLECTS

OF

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND,

IN VERSE.

BY

JAMES TROWER BULLOCK.

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TO THE RIGHT REVEREND

THE LORD BISHOP

OF LICHFIELD AND NEW ZEALAND.

My dear Lord Bishop,

Having been permitted to dedicate this volume to you, in remembrance of our school-days at Eton, and of a happy friendship there commenced, allow me to state that I consider the dedication of a work designed to draw attention, in however humble a degree, to any part of the admirable Liturgy of the Church of England, is peculiarly appropriate to yourself, not only as regards your private character, but also as regards the extraordinary zeal evinced by you in the discharge of your sacred duties as a Bishop of our Church, diffusing the holy precepts of the Gospel

in distant lands, and upholding "the faith once delivered to the saints," in these perilous times at home.

That your life may, by God's blessing, be preserved in health and vigour, and that the Church of this realm may long enjoy the benefit of the support which your pastoral care and authority will afford to it, is the earnest prayer of

My dear Lord Bishop,

Your obliged and faithful friend and servant,

JAMES TROWER BULLOCK.

PURTON, WILTS.
June, 1868.

PREFACE.

THIS Paraphrase of the Collects of the Church of England was at first intended by the Author merely for the use and benefit of his Grandchildren.

He trusts he has succeeded in preserving the beautiful simplicity which characterises the original prayers; at any rate, this has been his earnest desire and study.

Induced now to offer the result of his efforts to the public, he thinks that his little work may be found useful in Sunday Schools and families where the teaching of the Church is upheld and valued.

Should, however, this volume be fortunate enough to attract the attention of others more advanced in

life, the Author would humbly hope that it may be the means of strengthening their attachment to the Liturgy of the Church, which, by the grace and mercy of God, has been so long established in this kingdom.

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COLLECTS IN VERSE.

ADVENT SUNDAY.

ALMIGHTY Father, give us grace
The works of night to cast away;
No more the paths of sin to trace,
No more to yield to Satan's sway:
To put on truth and righteousness
To guard us in our warfare here,
To keep our hearts from numberless
Temptations, and our faith sincere.

In this our life, in which Thy Son,
Leaving the bliss He had with Thee,

The glory of Thy heavenly throne
Did come in great humility,
Our sufferings and grief to share,
From death's control to set us free,
To save us sinners, and prepare
Our souls for immortality.

That when He comes on that great day
In majesty arrayed, and might,
To judge both quick and dead, we may
Ascend as worthy in His sight,
To join the triumph of the sky
That dawns upon eternity;
Through Him who reigns, oh God! with Thee
And with Thy Spirit—One in Three.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

Oh blessèd Lord! who hast all Scriptures given
For fallen men to learn the way to Heaven;
Grant that the truths which they alone impart
May be by Thee so rooted in our heart,
That by th' enduring comfort they unfold,
We may through this life's journey firmly hold
That hope of life eternal, which Thy word
Proclaims to all, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

BLEST Saviour, who at Thy first coming sent
A messenger, Thine Advent to declare;
Grant that the Stewards of Thy mysteries,
With hallowed zeal, devotional intent,
May so our erring souls for Thee prepare,
That at Thy second coming, we may rise
To glory, made acceptable through Thee
Who reign'st with Father, Spirit—One in Three.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

Oh Lord! we pray Thee come and give
Thy saving health, that we may live,
So cleansed in heart that we may be
Worthy to dwell for e'er with Thee.
Sore let and hindered in the race
Before us set—what but Thy grace
Can succour us? what but Thy love
Can ope the way to realms above?
Thy mercy we can only crave
Through Jesus Christ who came to save,
To whom for ever glory be
In the eternal Trinity.

CHRISTMAS-DAY.

Oh God, who hast in mercy given
Thine only Son,
To make Thy people heirs of Heaven
And Thine alone.

Jesus, who as at this time came
A world to save,
And life eternal to proclaim
Beyond the grave :

"Good will" to fallen nature given
Pardon and peace,
Joy for His redeem'd in Heaven
When life shall cease.

Child of the Blessed Virgin, born
Of David's line,

Bringing to a world forlorn
Thy love divine.

Who took upon Him man's estate
Our lot to share,
That we might be regenerate,
And live for e'er.

Grant us, as born again and made
Children of grace,
A child-like love that will not fade
In Thee to place.

Grant that our hearts from Satan's sway
Restored to Thee,
By Thy bless'd Spirit, day by day
Renewed may be.

Through Him, our Saviour, God of love,
Who doth with Thee
And with Thy Spirit, reign above
In unity.

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS-DAY.

Oh God, who for our sake hast given,
In mercy from Thy throne in Heaven
A Saviour—Christ the Lord
Jesus, who was at this time born,
To bring into a world forlorn
The Gospel's saving word;

To take upon Him man's estate,
That we might be regenerate
And keep Thy Holy way;—
With grace, oh God! our hearts endue,
And by Thy Spirit's aid, renew
Our faith from day to day.

So when our term of days shall close,
May we enjoy that bless'd repose
Our Saviour came to give.
Ascended now on high with Thee,
And with Thy Spirit—One in Three
In endless day to live.

EPIPHANY.

Oh God who by a star didst tell
To every child of earth,
Not to the lost of Israel
Alone, a Saviour's birth,
And that salvation's light had come
To every heart and every home.

Vouchsafe that all who know Thee now
By faith, in praise before
Thine everlasting throne may bow
When nature's journey's o'er;
All who are looking for a ray
Of Bethlehem's star to guide their way.

Through Jesus Christ, Thy blessèd Son,
Father of all, we pray—
To know Thee when this life is done
And earth has passed away;
To know that peace of promised land,
No mortal mind can understand.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

LORD, we beseech Thee, hear
The prayer Thy people make
In humble faith and fear,
For Jesus' sake.

In mercy grant that they
May both perceive and know
The work that every day
They ought to do.

Oh! grant us power and grace
To keep Thy Holy word,
And our whole trust to place
In Christ our Lord.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

FATHER of all, whose government
O'er every thing extends,
In Heaven and earth omnipotent,
Whose kingdom never ends;
As is Thy glory, so Thy might,
And Thy compassion infinite.

In mercy grant, as days increase,
And we are spared to live,
Poor suppliants on earth, that peace
The world can never give—
That peace which none can comprehend,
And only Thou, oh God! canst send.

Oh! may we praise Thy Holy name
Through life's uncertain span,
And strive to follow Him who came
To bring good-will to man;
Jesus, whose life for us was given,
Through whom we make this prayer to Heaven.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God,
Look down on our infirmity,
We need Thy tender mercy nigh
On life's rough road.

Thy hand alone can strength afford,
Can guide us on the narrow way
That leads to everlasting day,
Through Christ our Lord.

In mercy grant that we may see,
When suffering from sorrow's sting,
That every trial's sent to bring
Us nearer Thee.

That whilst we beat through seas of care,
And tremble at each threatening wave,
The surest refuge we can have
Is found in prayer.

Oh! may we trust in Thee alone
To guard our steps from day to day,
And for Thy mercy ever pray
Through Thy dear Son.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

Oh God! who knowest mortal life
Is one of danger, and of strife
With Satan's enmity;
That we no power ourselves possess
To keep the soul from numberless
Temptations free;—

So frail by nature, so beset
With sin, at every turning met
By some beguiling snare:
We cannot move our steps aright,
To walk as worthy in Thy sight,
Without Thy care;—

Oh! then, in mercy, gracious God,
To us poor pilgrims on life's road
Thy help and strength afford,
To guard us safely, lest we stray
From virtue's path: all this we pray
Through Christ our Lord.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

KEEP, we beseech Thee, gracious Lord,
Thy universal Church secure;
Grant that it may through time endure
True to the doctrine of Thy word.

Grant that Thy children, who depend
On Thee alone, and firmly place
Their trust upon Thy heav'nly grace,
Thy mighty power may defend.

Vouchsafe that all may Christians be
In deed, and not in name alone,
And form one Church through Thy dear Son,
One great and Holy family.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

Oh God! whose only Son was sent
  To save a fallen race,
From everlasting punishment,
  Through His redeeming grace:

He came from Heaven's pure abode
  To crush the power of sin
And death, that all the narrow road
  To bliss might enter in.

Oh! grant, as we the hope possess
  Of one eternal home,
We may be cleansed from wickedness,
  And pure in heart become.

That, when He shall appear again,
  In glory and in might,
We may His promises obtain,
  As worthy in His sight.

That, made like Him in spirit pure,
  We may His presence see,
And know that peace which will endure
  Through all eternity.

SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY.

Oh Lord! with loving kindness, hear
The prayers Thy people make to Thee,
With faithful hearts and Holy fear,
And with unfeign'd humility.

That we, who suffer worthily
For sinful thoughts and evil ways,
By Thy great goodness spared may be
From punishment, Thy name to praise.

In mercy hear, oh God! our prayer,
For Jesus' sake, who reigns with Thee,
And with the Spirit, One for e'er
In the eternal Trinity.

SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY.

Oh God! who see'st that we place
No trust in any thing we do,
Vouchsafe to us Thy saving grace,
To guide us nature's journey through;

Thy ready help, that we may be
Protected by Thy mighty power,
To shield us in adversity,
And succour us in danger's hour.

Oh! grant, when we such blessings have,
That we may strive to keep Thy word,
And mercy ask, and pardon crave
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY.

Oh God! who hast Thy people taught,
However warm their zeal may be,
That all their doings come to naught,
Unless controlled by charity;
Oh! grant, Thy spirit may impart
That special grace to every heart.

That charity so true, so pure,
That will not vary, cannot fail,
That love, which will through time endure,
And over every ill prevail;
Which makes us for each other feel,
And wrongs redress, and faults conceal.

That love, which readily will bring
Forgiveness, and as quickly bear
Good-will on pity's tender wing,
To heal the deepest wound of care,
The bond of virtue and of peace
That never will decay nor cease.

Grant us, oh God! this charity,
To keep our hearts and minds aright;
Devoid of it, we ne'er can be
True witnesses of gospel light:
Oh! grant this prayer, we sinners make
Through Thy dear Son, and for His sake.

ASH-WEDNESDAY.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God
Who hatest nothing Thou hast made,
And dost forgiveness freely send
To all who with contrition bend
To Thee, for pity and for aid,
To guide them safely on life's road :

Create, oh Lord ! in us, and make
New hearts and contrite ones, that we
Lamenting our iniquity,
Acknowledging our misery,
May by Thy mercy pardon'd be
Through Jesus Christ and for His sake.

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT.

Oh Lord! who for our sake didst bear
  Both hunger and distress,
Assailed the while by Satan's snare
  In lonely wilderness,
Who depth of suffering endured,
That Heav'n for us might be secured:

Grant us Thy grace, that so we may
  Abstain from all excess,
Subdue corrupt affection's sway
  That ends in bitterness,
Shun sinful thought, that we may be
Purer in heart, and nearer Thee.

Vouchsafe the Spirit's influence
  To guide us on our way,
The power to use such abstinence
  As shall temptation stay;
And this we pray to Heav'n above
Through Thee, O Christ, in faith and love.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT.

Oh God! who knowest we possess
  No power ourselves to free
From danger, sorrow, or distress,
  For help we turn to Thee.

Preserve our bodies outwardly
  From harm; the soul within
Protect from all impurity
  And every taint of sin.

That so our lives by Thy defence
  Secure from ill may be,
Our souls kept by Thy providence
  From Satan's power free.

Accept, oh God! this prayer we make
For succour to Thy throne,
Through Jesus Christ, and for His sake,
Thy dear and only Son.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT.

Oh God! we pray Thee, look upon
  The humble and sincere,
Desirous that Thy will be done
  In reverence and fear.

For all who place their trust in Thee
  From whom all blessings flow,
Stretch forth Thy mighty pow'r to be
  Their shield 'gainst every foe.

Hear us, oh God! who seek Thy love
  And never-failing grace,
Through Christ who left the realms above
  To save man's fallen race.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT.

ALMIGHTY Father, grant that we,
Who, for our deeds, do worthily
Deserve Thy wrath and punishment,
May, by the comfort of Thy grace,
Be spared, as we our trust do place
In Him, who for the penitent,
With Thee, oh God! doth intercede,
And for Thy tender mercy plead.

Grant us the power and will to try
Our hearts to cleanse, and purify
From sins of thought, of word, or deed;
And may we so to Thee confess
The contrite spirit's bitterness,
That we may be for ever freed
From death, to dwell in bliss above,
Through Jesus Christ's atoning love.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT.

LORD! we beseech Thee look on those
Who strive with Holy zeal to keep
Thy just commands, till life shall close,
And death brings on the last long sleep.

Oh! may Thy help, on life's rough road,
Our bodies and our souls sustain;
Of trial they must bear their load,
Before eternal rest we gain.

Father of all, whose tender care
Is ever nigh, and freely given,
Accept, through Jesus Christ, the prayer,
That humble hearts outpour to Heav'n.

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE EASTER.

ETERNAL God, Omnipotent!
  Who of Thy tender love
To us, and all mankind, hast sent
  Thy Son from bliss above
To take our nature, and to die
A death of shame and agony:

Death of the vilest, so that we,
  By His example given
Of patience and humility,
  May win the way to Heaven;
By Him, from sin and death set free,
Made heirs of immortality:

By His example, day by day,
  May we with patience bear
Life's hardest lot, that so we may
  His resurrection share:
Grant this, oh Father! through the same
Jesus, who from Thy presence came.

GOOD FRIDAY.—FIRST COLLECT.

Oh God! we pray Thee look upon
Thy family, for which Thy Son
Descended from on high to bear
A life of sorrow, pain, and care;

By wicked men to be betrayed;
With infamy and scorn arrayed;
And even death of shame to die,
That we may live eternally.

Hear us, through Him, and for His love,
Jesus, who reigns with Thee above,
And, with the spirit, One in Three
Eternal, blessed Trinity.

GOOD FRIDAY.—SECOND COLLECT.

Oh God! who in Thy tender love
  And mercy ever nigh,
Dost send Thy spirit from above,
  To guard and sanctify
Thy people ev'rywhere, to be
One Holy Church adoring Thee.

Receive the supplications, Lord!
  Thy creatures humbly raise,
That all who now believe Thy word
  May walk in wisdom's ways,
And work Thy will in faith and love,
Through Christ, who reigns with Thee above.

GOOD FRIDAY.—THIRD COLLECT.

Oh God! who hast all people made,
And hatest nothing formed by Thee,
And wouldest not that one should die,
Or perish everlastingly,
But that from sin all should be free,
To live in holiness arrayed:

Thy mercy pour on all who dwell
In heathen darkness, Turk and Jew,
On heretics with mind intent
On questioning salvation sent
Through Christ, and save them with the few
Believers left of Israel.

Vouchsafe that all Thy grace may know,
That harden'd hearts to love may yield,
That none Thy Holy will may scorn,
But all the doctrine may adorn
Of Him, who sent it forth to shield
A feeble race from sin and woe.

So may they be to grace restored,
So guided by Thy mercy home,
Through Him, oh God! who reigns with Thee,
In the eternal Trinity,
That all may one great fold become,
Under one Shepherd, Christ the Lord.

EASTER EVEN.

Grant us, oh God! in Jesu's name
Baptized, believing that He came
Our souls to save,
To suffer and to die, that we
Might know the joy prepar'd by Thee
Beyond the grave:

Strength to resist, avoid, deny
Ungodliness, and mortify
Corruption's power;
That Thy bless'd Spirit's influence
May be our refuge and defence
In life's last hour;

May give us victory over death,
And, as our latest fleeting breath
Shall fade away,
The ransom'd soul to bliss shall raise,
Thee to adore with songs of praise,
In endless day.

For Jesus, who for us was slain,
Was buried, and who rose again,
Thine only Son;
Oh God! this prayer we sinners make,
And through the merits, for the sake
Of Him alone.

EASTER DAY.

Oh God! who through Thine only Son,
By His great sacrifice alone,
Hast death o'ercome, and freely given
A sure and certain hope of Heaven;

We pray Thee that, as by Thy grace,
Thou dost the purpose in us place
To do Thy will, so, by Thine aid,
May our resolves be perfect made:

Grant this, the prayer, oh God! we make,
For our ascended Saviour's sake,
Who reigns for e'er in Heaven with Thee,
And, with the Spirit, One in Three.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER.

ALMIGHTY Father, who didst give
Thy Son for us to die,
And rise again, that we might live
With Thee eternally,
Accepted, through Thy saving grace,
As worthy of Thy dwelling place:

Oh! grant us so to put away
Each sinful worldly thought,
Each vain desire, that so we may
To holiness be brought,
And keep, throughout life's weary road,
The living pasture of our God;

So may we, through our term of days,
With purity incline
To serve Thee faithfully, and praise
Thy majesty divine,
Through Jesus Christ, Thine only Son,
And for His merit's sake alone.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER.

ALMIGHTY God, who unto us hast given
Thine only Son to save our souls for Heaven,
And, by His full obedience to Thy will,
Hast set us an ensample to fulfil
Thy Holy law, may we in truth believe
His love profound, and thankfully receive
Th' inestimable benefit procured
By His great sufferings for us endured;
Vouchsafe to us Thine all-sufficient grace,
That we may daily strive His steps to trace,
In meek submission to Thy blessed word,
Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER.

Oh God! who from Thy mercy-seat
Hast shed the cheering ray
Of Gospel truth, the wanderer's feet
To guide in wisdom's way:

Grant us remorse for sin to feel,
Its cankering pow'r confess,
And with a pure and Holy zeal
Return to righteousness.

Oh! grant Thy word our lamp may be
Throughout our course, to light
Our steps, and keep them ever free
From paths of sin and night.

May all, on their baptismal day,
Within Thy fold received,
Preserve the faith secure, which they
Profess to have believed.

May they eschew with readiness
Whate'er will not accord
With that religion they confess,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER.

ALMIGHTY Father, who alone
Canst order the unruly will
Of froward hearts, to error prone,
And every evil passion still;

Grant, Lord! that we may truly love
To do those things Thou dost command,
And thus our full obedience prove
With faithful heart and willing hand.

Vouchsafe through life's alluring ways,
We may Thy promises desire,
And strive, along our course, to raise
Our inward aspirations higher.

That thus throughout time's little space,
So full of change, and yet so fleet,
We may our hearts securely place
Where only joy can be complete;

Where peace and love can never fade;
Where contrite hearts, to grace restored,
In realms of bliss are perfect made,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER.

Oh Lord! from whom both every good
And perfect gift proceed,
Who freely sendest heavenly food
For all our need,

Grant us Thy Spirit's influence
On mercy's tender wing,
That all our thoughts from innocence
Of heart may spring;

Direct us that our works may be
Performed in strict accord
With such our thoughts, and faithfully
Through Christ our Lord.

THE ASCENSION DAY.

Oh God! as we believe Thy Son,
For sinners slain,
Rose from the grave, the victory won
O'er death, to reign

With Thee for ever, and to give,
From Heaven's throne,
Unfailing peace, to all who live
To Him alone;

So may our hearts to Him ascend,
On Him repose,
Till time's eventful course shall end,
And life shall close;

That, when on earth He comes again
To claim His own,
We may eternal rest attain
Before Thy throne.

Oh ! may our hearts, in faith and love,
On Jesus dwell,
That we may share that joy above
Which none can tell:

To Him, oh God ! be praise with Thee,
In earth and Heaven,
And, with Thy Spirit, One in Three,
For ever given.

SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY.

Oh God! who hast Thine only Son
Triumphant raised to share
The glory of the eternal throne
And reign for ever there;
Raised to prepare a place for those
Who trust in Him till life shall close;—

Leave not Thy people comfortless,
Unguarded as they wend
Their way along life's wilderness,
But in Thy mercy send
Thy Holy Spirit's influence
To be our guide and sure defence.

So may we look for, so depend
On Christ—so faithful prove,
That, at the last, we may ascend,
Through His redeeming love,
To dwell with Him, our trial o'er,
In bliss—where He hath gone before.

Thy saving health on us bestow
Oh God! for Jesus' sake,
And as before Thy throne we bow,
Accept the prayer we make,
Through Him who reigns in Heaven with Thee,
And with the Spirit—One in Three.

WHIT-SUNDAY.

Oh God! who didst at this time teach,
By special inspiration given,
Apostles true of heart, to preach
To every nation under Heaven
A Saviour's word, and prophecy
Fulfilled for all: Salvation nigh!

Grant us Thy Holy Spirit's light—
Hearts in His comfort to rejoice,
To understand Thy will aright,
To bless the gospel's gladdening voice,
To walk as children of the day,
Striving to keep Thy perfect way.

Hear us, oh God! and grant the aid
Thy Spirit can alone afford.
In faith and hope our prayer is made,
Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord,
Who with the Spirit reigns with Thee
In glory everlastingly.

TRINITY SUNDAY.

ALMIGHTY Father! who to us hast given
Grace to receive the mysteries of Heaven,
And by that faith which we confess in Thee,
To own the glory of the Trinity,
To bow the knee before th' eternal throne
In adoration of the Three in One:
Preserve us ever in this faith secure,
Let not the world's vain hopes our hearts allure,
Be Thou our refuge to eternity,
O Father, Son, and Spirit, One in Three!

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh God! who givest strength to all
  Who walk in wisdom's way,
In mercy hear us when we call,
  And teach us how to pray.

Corrupt by nature, poor and frail,
  Our footsteps cannot trace
The path of righteousness—we fail
  Without Thy saving grace.

Oh! grant to us that blessing, Lord!
  No power but Thine can give,
That we may please Thee, by Thy word
  Obeying, while we live.

Thy grace through Jesus Christ we crave ;
  Through Him accept our prayer,
Who came Thy wandering sheep to save
  And guide them to Thy care.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh Lord! who never fail'st to give
  Thy help to them who fear
Thy Holy name, to all who live
  To Thee, Thou wilt be near.

Thy Spirit comfort sheds abroad,
  Sends never failing grace,
And love, to lighten sorrow's load
  Upon a sinful race.

Protect us, Lord! and may we prove
  Our constant love and fear
For Thee, through Jesus Christ, whose love
  For us is ever near.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

VOUCHSAFE in mercy, Lord, to hear
Thy servants when they call on Thee;
Let us Thy throne of grace draw near,
To bow the head, to bend the knee.

If warm desire, which Thou hast given,
To pray, from contrite hearts shall spring,
Protect us with the shield of Heaven,
And comfort us beneath Thy wing.

Through this life's troubled pilgrimage
Thy might alone can help afford,
Thy love alone can grief assuage,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh God! protector of all those
  Who put their trust in Thee,
To us Thy mercy freely flows,
  And bountiful as free.

Without Thy providence and love,
  If Thou should'st cease to bless,
How weak our best resolves would prove!
  How vain our holiness!

Oh! may Thy mercies be increased,
  Thy blessings multiplied;
We are not worthy of the least,
  Yet none shall be denied.

So rule our hearts, direct our way,
  That sin may not ensnare;
So guide, that at the last we may
  Thy rest eternal share.

Poor suppliants, this prayer we make
  According to Thy word,
And Thou wilt hear for Jesus' sake,
  Thy only Son, our Lord.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

GRANT, Lord! that this world's course may be
So ruled and ordered peaceably,
As by Thy governance and might,
So by Thy mercy infinite,
That those who Thy great name confess
May dwell in godly quietness;
And with one spirit joyfully
Obey Thy law, and worship Thee;
And that Thy Church on earth may prove
A bond of unity and love,
To all who live, as they profess
The name of Christ, in righteousness;
Grant this through Him, and Him alone
Who came to save, Thy Holy One.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh God! who hast prepared for those
Who love Thee, when this life shall close,
At Thy right hand,
Such good things none on earth can know
While passing life's rough journey through,
Nor understand.

Oh! make our hearts in purity,
Our first affections willingly
To Thee incline,
That loving Thee as we profess,
We may obtain Thy promises
And peace divine.

For blessings more than we desire,
Or can conceive, our souls inspire,
On Thee alone
To trust, believing in Thy word
Through Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord,
Thine Holy One.

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Lord of all wisdom, might and power!
From whom the blessings of each hour
Proceed; through whom we live and move
And have our being; God of love!
Oh! graft in us such love for Thee
And for Thy Name, that we may be
Increased in Thy religion true,
Nourished in spirit, passing through
Our trial here, and in Thy Word
Kept steadfastly through Christ our Lord.

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh God! whose never-failing care
  Both Heaven and earth controls,
Protect us 'gainst temptation's snare
  And guard our erring souls.

Defend us from all hurtful things,
  And give us grace to see
The path of holiness which brings
  Our spirits nearer Thee.

May we perform through every ill
  The work which Thou hast given,
For only they who do Thy will
  Shall pass the gate of Heaven.

Thou dost not try our faith, we know,
More than our strength can bear;
Thy gifts for Jesus' sake bestow,
Through Him accept our prayer.

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

LORD! unto us the spirit give,
To think of Thee with pure delight,
Ever with holy zeal to strive
To do what conscience says is right.

Grant this, for good we cannot do
Without Thy help in mercy given,
Be Thou our strength in passing through
This life, to keep the will of Heaven.

Hear us, oh God! for Jesus' sake,
Our Advocate with Thee, alone,
No prayer can sinful creatures make
Through any merits of their own.

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh Lord! who hearest when we cry
To Thee for strength, in mercy nigh
To all who with humility
Make known in faith their need to Thee:
Oh! let our hands be raised above
For all Thy wisdom doth approve;
Vouchsafe to us that heavenly food,
Thy greatest gift, least understood;
And as we pray Thy will be done,
Grant us this prayer through Thy dear Son.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

ALMIGHTY God! whose power is chiefly seen
In pity and in mercy infinite;
When we for sins repeated might have been
As sinful creatures banished from Thy sight;
Oh! grant to us in mercy, whilst we pray,
Sufficient grace, that we from day to day
Running the way by Thy commandments given,
May be partakers of the bliss of Heaven,
Of glory, promised by Thy gracious word,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy blessèd Son, our Lord.

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

ALMIGHTY God! who always art
More ready to receive our prayer
Than we to pray with contrite heart,
Unworthy of Thy constant care;

Always in love more wont to give
Than we can merit or desire,
Bestowing freely as we live,
All that Thy creatures can require;

Pour down Thy mercy! pardoning
Those things from which we shrink afraid;
And give us every needful thing,
Although unworthy of Thine aid.

We dare not kneel before Thy throne
To pray for grace, nor mercy crave,
But through the merits of Thy Son,
Thine only Son, who came to save.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

FATHER of all! Omnipotent!
By whose most Holy Spirit sent
Thy servants true devotion find
To serve Thee with adoring mind,
Grant we may so obey Thee here,
With reverence and godly fear,
That at the last we may obtain
Thy promises—which none can gain,
Save through the merits of Thy Son,
Through His redeeming love alone.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Oh God! from whom all blessings flow,
  Unworthy though we be,
Vouchsafe that in our hearts may grow
  Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Faith in redemption through Thy Son,
  And Hope, as heirs of Heaven,
And Love, for Him through whom alone
  Our sins can be forgiven.

That we Thy promises, when day
  Eternal dawns, may share,
Teach us to honour and obey
  Thy laws with constant care.

Oh! let our prayer to Heaven's gate
  In mercy, Lord! ascend,
Through Christ our only Advocate,
  The contrite sinner's friend.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

In mercy, Lord! we pray Thee keep
Thy Church on earth, with constant care;
Preserve the pasture of Thy sheep
Secure from every hidden snare.

Corrupt by nature, weak and frail,
No power within ourselves for good,
Our hearts in holiness must fail,
Unless supplied with heavenly food.

Support us ever by Thy grace,
Poor pilgrims in a world of strife;
Help us the narrow way to trace
That leadeth to eternal life.

In paths of peace our steps direct,
Believers in Thy blessèd word;
Our souls from hurtful things protect,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

LORD! to Thy chosen people show
  Thy never-failing care,
The help Thou canst alone bestow
  Will shield them everywhere;
Watch o'er Thy fold with pitying eye,
Thy flock defend and sanctify.

Thy Church, we pray Thee, guard and keep
  From sin and danger free,
Preserve the pasture of Thy sheep
  From all impurity.
This prayer with humble hearts we make,
Through Jesus Christ and for His sake.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh Lord! with humble heart we pray
Thy grace may go before our way,
And follow us through world of care,
To guard us from temptation's snare;
That we continually may
Thy holy will and laws obey,
Show by our works we love Thy word,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh Lord! we pray for grace to kill
Unholy thoughts as they arise,
To crush the power of Satan's will,
To shun all worldly vanities,
And with pure hearts and minds, the way
Of Thy commands with one accord
To follow truly, day by day,
Through Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

As man, oh God! without Thy grace
To help him in this world of strife,
Can never please Thee, never trace
The path to everlasting life:

Grant us in mercy that sure guide
Thy Spirit can alone afford;
And this we pray through Him who died
For us, our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God!
Of Thine abundant goodness keep
All hurtful things on life's rough road
From us, Thine erring wand'ring sheep.

That we, prepared, may readily
Accomplish all Thou dost command;
Hear us through Christ, who dwells with Thee,
Our Advocate at Thy right hand.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

In each believer's heart, oh Lord!
Let steadfastness increase;
To all who love Thy sacred word,
Thy pardon grant, and peace.

That purified from sin they may,
Through good report and ill,
With quiet mind Thy law obey,
And work Thy holy will.

Father of all! this prayer we make
Through Him who died that we
Might live for e'er, and for His sake,
Our Advocate with Thee.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

LORD! we beseech Thee, keep
Thy Church in constant godliness,
The pasture of Thy sheep
In peace preserve, with safety bless;
That, by Thy grace, it may be free
From danger and adversity.

And thus sustained by Thee,
Devoutly be Thy creatures given
To do as faithfully
Thy will on earth as done in Heaven—
This prayer, oh God! in faith we make,
Through Him who suffered for our sake.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh God! our refuge in distress,
Our only strength in world of strife,
The Author of all holiness,
The Giver of eternal life,
Receive the prayers Thy people raise,
In love and hope, in faith and praise.

Send down on us our heart's request,
Which, if in faith and meekness made,
We know will not remain unblest:
Thy mercy never is delayed;
This prayer we ask through Christ the Lord,
Believing, trusting in Thy Word.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Oh God! from their offences set
  Thy faithful people free;
Turn not away Thy face, nor let
  Their sins unpardoned be,

That by Thy Grace so plenteously
  Bestowed, and mercy shown,
We may be saved from sins which we
  Have through our frailty done.

So, freed from Satan's power, we may
  From sinful ways depart,
To serve our God from day to day
  In singleness of heart.

Grant this, oh Father! for Thy Son,
  According to Thy word,
For Jesus' sake, Thy Holy One,
  Our Saviour and our Lord.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

LORD! we beseech Thee, stir the hearts
Of all who place their faith in Thee:
Grant them the power that love imparts,
And zeal to serve Thee constantly;
Increase their faith, their wills incline,
To love and keep Thy laws divine.

So may they yield, till life shall close,
The fruit of good works plenteously,
That they may share that sure repose,
That full reward prepared by Thee,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy blessèd Son,
And for His merits' sake alone.

ST. STEPHEN'S DAY.

GRANT, Lord, as we do testify
  Thy truth in suffering here,
That we may dread no enemy,
  Nor pain, nor trial fear;

But, looking up with steadfast eye
  To Heaven, in faith may see
That bliss to be revealed on high
  In immortality.

And, by Thy Holy Spirit's aid,
  May he our pattern be—
Stephen, who for his murderers prayed,
  In perfect charity.

To Thee, whose saving health is near
  To those who grief endure,
Who suffer persecution here,
  In faith and hope secure—

To Thee be praise and glory shewn,
  Who for our sakes wast given,
Who standest at th' eternal throne,
  Our Advocate in Heaven.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST'S DAY.

LORD! to Thy people grant Thy rays
Of heavenly light,
To guide them in Thy holy ways,
To keep, throughout their term of days,
Their souls aright.

Teach them to choose the good from ill
From day to day;
Thy truth into their hearts instil,
Make them with zeal, and ready will,
Thy laws obey.

May they, through days to come, oh Lord!
Be faithful proved;
And may their course of life accord
With that disciple's blessèd word,
Whom Jesus loved.

So may they not have lived in vain,
When time shall cease,
And dust returns to dust again,
But, through their Saviour, Christ, attain
Eternal peace.

THE INNOCENTS' DAY.

Oh God! who strength to babes didst give
For Christ to die,
Who came that all through Him might live
Eternally:

Grant that we may in heart and mind
On earth become
As children, and hereafter find
A heavenly home.

Imbue our hearts with innocence,
Within us kill
All vice, that we give no offence
To Thy just will.

To love Thy word our hearts incline
With constant faith,
That we, through Christ, Thy name divine
May laud till death.

THE CIRCUMCISION.

ALMIGHTY God! who madest Thy dear Son
Obey the law for fallen man alone,
Yet, not as an example only, given
That humble hearts should do the will of Heaven,
But, that by His great sacrifice for Sin,
Mankind o'er Satan's power might victory win.

To us and all Thy people, Lord! impart
The inward circumcision of the heart,
That we, subduing every worldly lust,
May keep Thy blessèd will, and place our trust
On Him alone, and in His saving word,
Through Jesus Christ, the same, Thy Son, our Lord.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY.

Oh God! who didst St. Andrew give
Grace to receive the call to live
For Christ alone,
And faith, the summons to obey
To follow Him without delay,
Thy blessèd Son;

Vouchsafe to us the ready will
And hearts desirous to fulfil
Thy Holy word,
To give up all in life for Thee,
As heirs of immortality,
Through Christ our Lord.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE.

ETERNAL God! Omnipotent!
Who further to confirm the faith
Didst suffer one, whom Thou hadst sent
To preach Thy word, to doubt that death
And Satan's power had been o'ercome,
That Christ had risen from the tomb.

Grant us so truly to believe
Thy blessèd Son's divinity,
That we His gospel may receive,
That faith in us may blameless be,
And thus enable us to die
To sin, and rise in purity.

Oh! may we be in heart sincere
To share the promise Jesus gave
To all who have not seen Him here,
And yet believe He came to save;
Hear us, through Him who reigns with Thee,
And with Thy Spirit One in Three
In glory everlastingly.

THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL.

Oh God! who by th' Apostle Paul
Hast caused the gospel light to shine
Throughout the Gentile world, on all
In darkness cast, with love divine:
Vouchsafe that we, who truly know
His wondrous change of heart to Thee,
Our thankfulness may ever shew,
By keeping with fidelity
The doctrine of Thy blessed word
Which he did teach, as freely given
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with Thee in Heaven.

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE.

ETERNAL God! Omnipotent!
Grant that we may
Obedient hearts to Thee present,
As on this day
Thy only Son was offered to fulfil,
Within Thy temple gates, Thy Holy will.

There brought by mercy infinite
In man's estate,
An infant perfect in Thy sight,
Immaculate:
So may our hearts from all pollution free
Be offered by Thy Son, our Lord, to Thee.

ST. MATTHIAS' DAY.

Oh God! who gavest Thy Apostles grace
To choose Matthias to supply the place
Of Judas who betrayed his Lord,
Grant that Thy Church on earth preserved may be
From teachers false, and made from error free,
By faithful preachers of Thy word.

Give to Thy people strength from day to day
To hold the faith secure, to watch and pray,
Lest they should fall to rise no more.
Father of all! in mercy hear our prayer,
That we in bliss that promised land may share,
Through Jesus Christ whom we adore.

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

Oh Lord! as by Thy grace we know
Thy Son descended from above,
To take our nature and bestow
On fallen man redeeming love:
Jesus, declared by an angelic voice,
Bidding the Virgin's humble heart rejoice.

So by the Cross He meekly bore,
When He in triumph shall appear
To judge the world, our trial o'er,
May we a crown of glory wear,
Join in the praise before th' eternal throne,
Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy blessèd Son.

ST. MARK'S DAY.

Oh God! who hast good tidings sent,
  And caused Thy light to shine
For us, may we with firm intent
  Observe Thy law divine.

Grant us Thy grace that we may hold
  Its doctrine fast, and keep
Within our blest Redeemer's fold,
  Till we shall fall asleep.

That being not like children prone
  To change, Thy truth may be
In every heart securely sown,
  And kept from danger free.

There firmly rooted may it grow
  In strength that will not fail;
There as a rock 'gainst ev'ry foe
  Eternally prevail.

So may we through the scenes of life,
  Through each succeeding hour,
Protected be in constant strife
  With Satan's deadly power.

Thus taught by Thy Evangelist
  St. Mark, Thy saving word,
May teachers false Thy church resist,
  Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

ST. PHILIP AND ST. JAMES' DAY.

FATHER of all! Omnipotent!
Whom verily to know,
And Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent
Salvation to bestow,
Is life eternal from the grave,
Prepared for those He came to save;

Vouchsafe that we may perfectly
Know Him in this our day,
Jesus Thy blessèd Son to be
The life, the truth, the way.
And through whose sacrifice alone
The conquest over sin was won.

Comfirm this faith in us, Thy grace
Impart, that we may strive
Thy blest Apostles' steps to trace,
And so like them to live:
That we may keep the narrow road,
Through Jesus Christ, to Thy abode.

ST. BARNABAS THE APOSTLE.

Oh God! who didst in pity and in love
To Thy Apostles give Thy heavenly light,
To spread Thy everlasting word, and prove
The truth they preached to all in heathen night.

Light to a dreary world, by which alone
The sinner's sinking heart is comforted;
Power to console the broken hearted one,
To heal the suffering sick, and raise the dead.

Thus taught, with grace our feeble minds imbue,
That we may live like holy Barnabas,
From day to day our faith and zeal renew,
That we through treach'rous ways may safely pass.

Accept, oh God! this prayer we sinners make,
Looking through Him alone to be forgiven:
Jesus, our blessèd Lord, and for His sake,
Who came to lead His wandering sheep to Heaven.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S DAY.

Oh God! how great Thy providence!
How rich Thy mercy seat! from whence
Doth every perfect blessing flow,
As wandering pilgrims onward go;
How sure Thy word to fallen man,
Rebellious since the world began!
Rejoice, O earth! the prophecy
Of old fulfilled; redemption nigh!
The Baptist, wonderfully born,
Has come—the herald of the dawn,
To ope salvation's promised day,
Forerunner of the Saviour's way,
To make, throughout the desert road,
A highway for th' eternal God!

Thus would the hearts in ancient days
Of faithful few Thy glory praise;
And thus may we, oh God! delight
To bless Thy mercy infinite,
No longer children of the night.
Vouchsafe that we through life may trace
His holy steps, securely place
Our hearts, by sacred zeal prepared,
Firm in the doctrine he declared;
May hearken to the Baptist's voice,
Believe, repent, in truth rejoice,
Rebuke the frequent sins that come
To turn our thoughts from heavenly home;
Our hearts in suffering cheerful make,
And patient for our Saviour's sake,
Through whom, oh God! in faith and fear,
We humbly pray—shalt Thou not hear?

ST. PETER'S DAY.

Oh God! who by Thy Son didst send
To Thy Apostles gifts divine,
Thy chosen people to defend,
And keep them Thine;

Who bade St. Peter earnestly
To feed Thy flock with constant care,
To keep Thy lambs from danger free,
And every snare:

Vouchsafe that all Thy pastors may
With diligence proclaim Thy word,
And grant Thy people may obey
Through Christ our Lord.

So at the last, when life is o'er,
We may a crown of glory share,
Through the same Jesus we adore,
And live for e'er.

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE.

ALMIGHTY God! our hearts incline
To imitate Saint James, and prove,
By following Thy word divine,
Our faith in Jesus, and our love:
Our readiness to give up all,
Obedient to our Saviour's call.

Vouchsafe to us the power to make
Thy law our study and delight,
All worldly passions to forsake,
To shun the works of sin and night:
Oh! grant us grace to keep Thy word,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE.

ALMIGHTY Father! who didst give
The gospel's light that we might live
To Christ our Lord:
To Thy Apostles power to teach
Its truth, so may Thy pastors preach
Thy Holy word,
Salvation to believers sent,
Forgiveness to the penitent!

Oh may Thy word within us dwell,
May we, like good Nathaniel,
So guileless be,
That we may readily obey

The call to life, and learn the way
That leads to Thee,
The path of virtue firmly hold,
And bring forth fruit an hundredfold.

Oh! may Thy Church on earth believe
The word he taught, and so receive
The same in love,
That with such knowledge we may bear
Our Saviour's cross, and ever share
That rest above
Prepared for all who keep Thy word,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE.

ALMIGHTY God! who by Thy Son
Didst Matthew call, to leave his own
And all his worldly store,
To publish to the penitent
Good tidings, through the gospel sent,
And peace for evermore.

Oh! grant we may not covet wealth
Forgetful of Thy saving health,
Absorbed by earthly gain;
Oh! give us strength, that we may make
Good resolutions to forsake
The love of all things vain.

Vouchsafe that we may quickly part
With every thing that draws the heart
From following Thy word:
Through Jesus Christ, who lives with Thee
In th' everlasting Trinity,
Our Saviour and our Lord.

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God!
Who hast ordained in Thy abode
Messengers of heavenly peace,
Angels of light, who never cease
To bear on pity's tender wing
Thy gifts to spirits suffering
For Jesus' sake, sent forth from Thee
To heirs of immortality.
Oh! grant as they in Heaven above
Serve Thee in constancy and love,
So may they succour by Thy grace
Thy feeble creatures, while we trace
The paths of this life's wilderness
Midst dangers great and numberless,

And strive to keep the narrow way
That leads to everlasting day,
And hold the doctrine of Thy word
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST.

Oh God! who calledst Luke, whose praise
Is in Thy blessèd gospel shown,
To preach Thy word—to heal, to raise
The suffering soul by sin weighed down:

Grant us to follow thankfully
The saving doctrine he declared,
That we from day to day may be
Restored to grace; for Heaven prepared.

Through Jesus Christ, Thy only Son,
Who came on earth our griefs to bear,
And for His merits' sake alone
Hear us, oh God! and grant our prayer.

ST. SIMON AND ST. JUDE APOSTLES.

Oh God! who hast Thy Church securely built
On Prophets and Apostles, Christ our Lord
The Head and Corner-stone, we pray Thou wilt
So join us in the doctrine of Thy word,
That we may one united temple be
In spirit pure, acceptable to Thee.

So may we pass the day of peril, free
From unbelievers' wiles, in spirit calm,
So may we firmly hold Thy truth, that we
The vain self-boasting sceptic may disarm,
And keep the ancient faith and gospel word,
Through Jesus Christ, Thy blessed Son, our Lord.

ALL SAINTS' DAY.

ALMIGHTY God! at whose right hand
Thine own elect for ever stand,
Redeemed to Thee, and forming one
Great company before Thy throne.

Joined in the church of Thy dear Son
In one communion, Thine alone,
Sharing the blessings only gained
Through perfect faith, and love unfeigned.

Oh may we strive to run the race
Thy blessèd saints have by Thy grace
Before us set, that we the love
And joy may know of Heaven above:

Joy, that on earth can not be told,
That mortal eye can ne'er behold,
The true believer's sure reward,
Prepared through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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